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Chairman Marvin Abney
House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
Room 35
82 Smith St.
Providence, RI 02903

3/20/2021

ATTN: Christopher O'Brien, Committee Clerk

AGAINST House Bill 5193 - Establishment of Charter Schools

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

My name is Ana Almeida. I am writing to express **my strong opposition to Representative O'Brien's bill, H-5193, regarding charter schools.** I am a parent of 3. I have a senior and a freshman in HS. I have been blessed to be able to exercise my right for SCHOOL CHOICE. All my children had benefited from the Public Education district of Central Falls and that includes charter schools. My 3 sons attended SEGUE IFL and Blackstone Academy.

I write to you today because as a parent I want the **RIGHT to CHOOSE** what is best for my children specially when it's on regards of their education.

*I started to volunteer and getting involved in my children's school more than 10 years a, when my son started school for the first time. I have been involved in Parent Teacher Association and committees, volunteer on numerous events and I learned so much about **SCHOOL CHOICE** and the importance of parents being able to **CHOOSE** what school is best for their children.*

*I educate parents about their involvement in their student's education and have met parents through the years that are **not aware** that we have a voice in should be able to make a change in our kids' education.*

Currently, I helped run the Food Pantry at Segue IFL (were ALL my sons attended Middle School) I have spoken to parents that are worried about their students for next year. Even though they already applied, specially the ones that have siblings attending, and how it will affect them if this bill passes

That is why I write this letter to request that you Please oppose House Bill 5193 and let our children pursue the high-quality education they deserve.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Ana Almeida